DOCKET NO.: THOM-0022 PATENT

Application No.: 10/088,042

Office Action Dated: December 14, 2007

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of sealing a reclosable fastener to a substrate, the method comprising:

presenting lengths of fastener to a continuous elongate substrate, said lengths of fastener each extending transversely to the length of said substrate, wherein each fastener comprises a body portion comprising first and second interengaging profiles,

locating the lengths of fastener on the substrate while the lengths of fastener are transverse to the length of said substrate, by [[first]] initially attaching a flange portion of the fastener to the substrate so as to leave [[a]] the body portion of the fastener free for movement relative to the substrate,

subsequently passing the substrate with the flange portion of the fastener attached and body portion free between a pair of sealing jaws

displacing said sealing jaws relative to the combination to bring the substrate and the fastener body into contact in order to effect sealing of the fastener body to the substrate.

- 2. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the length dimension of the sealing jaws is such as to form the substrate around the body portion of the fastener.
- 3. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, which includes locating the fastener between two substantially parallel webs of material, and <u>said step of initially</u> attaching <u>said flange portion of said the lengths of fastener comprises attaching said flange portion</u> only to the inside of one of said webs of material.
- 4. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, <u>in</u> which includes initially attaching the lengths of said flange portion of said fastener by means of is a single flange extending from one element of said body portions of the fastener.
- 5. (Canceled)

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6. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, in which <u>each of said</u> interengageable profiles has the body portion of the fastener comprises two engageable elements, each having an upstanding post at the margin of the fastener which is engageable with a heel of the other element <u>profile</u> at the opposing margin of said other <u>profile</u> element, with the respective posts and heels of the two <u>elements profiles</u> angled at their respective contact surfaces.

7.-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A method of sealing a reclosable fastener to a substrate, the method comprising the steps of:

providing <u>a continuous</u> <u>an</u> elongate web of a substrate to which a reclosable fastener is to be sealed, wherein said reclosable fastener comprises <u>a body portion comprising</u> first and second interengaging profiles, at least one of which comprises <u>a body portion and</u> a flange portion which extends laterally from the body portion;

presenting lengths of said reclosable fastener to said web at one or more locations spaced at predetermined intervals along the length of said web, said lengths of fastener extending transversely to the length of said web;

locating a length of said reclosable fastener on said web, while the lengths of fastener are transverse to the length of said web, at each said location by attaching said flange portion of said length to said web so as to leave said body portion of said fastener free for movement relative to said web of said substrate, thereby forming a combination of said web with said flange of said length of fastener attached thereto by said flange;

passing the combination of said web of said substrate with said fastener lengths attached thereto by said flange portions thereof successively along a predetermined path of movement between a pair of sealing jaws which are displaceable, relative to the combination, to effect a sealing of the substrate to the body portion of said fastener when moved into contact therewith; and

displacing the sealing jaws relative to said web of said substrate, thereby securing said web to said fastener body portion, thus sealing said fastener to said substrate.

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12. (Canceled).

13. (New) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said lengths of fastener each extend

transversely to the length of said substrate when said lengths of fastener are presented to the

substrate.

14. (New) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said lengths of reclosable fastener

each extend transversely to the length of said substrate when said lengths of reclosable

fastener are presented to the substrate.